

BE AWARE BE SAFE



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Mount Vernon Fire
June 6 - 9am to 8pm
House Burn Training
405 Hoag Road
(360) 336-6277
- CPR/First Aid Class
June 13 - 8am to 5pm
Skagit County EMS
(360) 428-3230
- Mount Vernon Police
Preparatory Academy
High School Students
June 15 - June 19
8am to 5pm
(360) 336-6271
- Car Seat Safety Check
June 18 - 1pm to 3pm
Skagit Valley Hospital
Contact Bill Craig
(360) 661-7417
- Child & Babysitting
Safety Class
June 22 - 9am to 3pm
Hillcrest Park
Skylight Room
(360) 336-6215

Making a Positive Difference

May 2015

MEET OUR NEW FIREFIGHTER

Meet Beau France, the newest member of our fire department family. He has lived the past 33 years in Skagit County and is a 1994 graduate from MVHS. Beau did not know much about the fire service prior to volunteering with our department in 2009. It was during this time that he saw the huge impact firefighters have in the lives of residents on a daily basis and enjoyed the continuous professional development that is encouraged in the fire service. At that point he decided this is what he wanted to do as a life-

long career. Beau was officially sworn in on April 1, 2015.

Also joining our family are his wife who teaches at Marysville High School, his daughter who will graduate in June and plans to attend Seattle Pacific University, and son who is very active in sports and his school's student government program. Outside of work they like to hike, camp, and fish; or just hang out at home playing board games. A big passion for Beau is honing his martial arts skills. He has studied



the different disciplines of Tae Kwon Do, Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and Muay Thai; currently he is an assistant instructor at a local martial arts gym.

When asked what his favorite thing about becoming a firefighter is he replied, "I get to drive big red trucks with lights and sirens for the rest of my career while helping the citizens of Mount Vernon!"

FIRE CHIEF'S CORNER

I've responded to countless BBQ fires. While most of them end up in the comical or embarrassing category, some have been quite tragic and resulted in total loss. Tragedy can be prevented by remembering three things when it comes to BBQ's: Keep your connections tight, your grills clean, and your ashes canned.

On a gas BBQ, the brass connection between the bottle and hose is often left

loose, which inevitably results in a sudden ignition around the valve. Turning off the valve solves the problem, but you must have a leather glove handy to do so or you will get burned. Gas BBQ's also have a tendency to build up grease drippings, which can ignite and destroy not only the food but will burn so intensely the entire cast grill will melt.

Finally, for you charcoal enthusiasts, never dispose

of your briquettes in any manner except in a metal can or other container specifically designed for hot coals. No plastic, cardboard, wood or paper container is safe for used briquettes, ever!

Open flame cooking devices are not permitted in multi-family dwellings.

Enjoy your summer - be safe!

NEXT MONTH

Mount Vernon Fire will conduct training at a vacant house located at 405 Hoag Road on June 6th between 9am and 8pm. We will conduct controlled burning within the structure to provide live fire training and extinguishment.

The public should be aware of additional fire department emergency vehicles in the area. Road signs and markings will be in place to assist with the flow of vehicle and pedestrian traffic in the immediate area.